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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Ordnance Depot and Ordnance School in JESSEN

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. A Soviet ordnance and equipment depot was located in the former "Fuhrmann & Soehne" hardware factory, JESSEN (N 52/E 56).
2. About 350 Germans of both sexes were employed in cleaning and greasing field guns, infantry guns, antitank guns, rocket launchers, machine guns, rifles, submachine guns, pistols, sighting mechanisms and other optical equipment.
3. A civilian reported 150 to 180 infantry guns to be stored in one of the warehouses.
4. Twelve to fifteen hundred officers and EM of an ordnance school were allegedly quartered in the nearby cantonment buildings and in JESSEN houses. Small groups of EM and NCOs were seen to be instructed by officers on weapons and laying and sight equipment. Personnel adjusting guns and other weapons were also observed.
5. About 65 NCOs, led by a first lieutenant, were observed marching to a depot section. All NCOs wore red epaulets with the crossed-gun barrel insignia.
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6. The following motor vehicles were identified at the depot entrance:

The observed trucks were three-axle vehicles of US origin with box-type superstructure, the sidewalls being marked with a diamond.

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Comment:

- a. The Soviet Army ordnance and equipment depot (with an attached ordnance repair shop) has been known in the former "Fuhrmann & Soehne" hardware factory, JESSEN, since late 1947.

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b. The JESSE orance school was reported for the first time and therefore needs confirmation.

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